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REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)

Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. §132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of a utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).

Application Number	09/134,147
Filing Date	August 14, 1998
First Named Inventor	Wallace T.Y. Tang
Group Art Unit	1763
Examiner Name	Trung Dang
Attorney Docket Number	05542-459003

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. §1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. §1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. §1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. §1.114**

a. ☐ Previously submitted

i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered)

ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____

iii. ☐ Other _____

b. ☒ Enclosed

i. ☒ Amendment/Reply

ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)

iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)

iv. ☒ Other Transmittal of Formal Drawings; (2) Sheets of Formal Drawings

2. **Miscellaneous**

a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. §1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(i) required)

b. ☐ Other _____

3. **Fee** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. §1.114 when the RCE is filed.

a. ☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 06-1050

i. ☐ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(e) 12/06/2002 NGBREH1 00000051 09134147

ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§1.136 and 1.17) 01 FC:1801 740.00 DP

iii. ☒ Other Any deficiencies

b. ☒ Check in the amount of \$ 740.00 enclosed

c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

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SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	David J. Goren	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	34,609
Signature	<i>David J. Goren</i>	Date	12/3/02

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to **Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231** or facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office on: December 3, 2002

Name (Print/Type)	Nikia-Mc-Nillion
Signature	<i>Nikia-Mc-Nillion</i>
Date	December 3, 2002



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Wallace Tang
Serial No. : 09/134,147
Filed : August 14, 1998
Title : IN-SITU REAL-TIME MONITORING TECHNIQUE AND APPARATUS FOR
DETECTION OF THIN FILMS DURING CHEMICAL/MECHANICAL
POLISHING PLANARIZATION

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Prior to examination, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

Cancel claims 1-10 and 20-31 without prejudice.

11. (Amended) A chemical mechanical polisher for planarizing a film on one side of a substrate having two sides comprising at least one light source that transmits light toward the substrate from the side of the substrate with the film to illuminate at least one section on the film and create at least one reflected light signal that is received by at least one device that monitors a dimensional change based on the reflected light signal.

12. The polisher as claimed in claim 11 wherein the at least one device is positioned on the same side of the substrate as the light source.

13. The polisher as claimed in claim 11 wherein each monitored section is minimized in size to remove signal problems.

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING BY FIRST CLASS MAIL

I hereby certify under 37CFR §1.8(a) that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage on the date indicated below and is addressed to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

12-4-02
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Dukin McMillan
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